



www.lsc.ohio.gov

OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

H.B. 399
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Rader and Cockley

Jeff Grim, Research Analyst

SUMMARY

- Effectively bans the taking or removal of oil or natural gas from and under the bed of Lake Erie and from and under Ohio state parks.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Oil or gas drilling under Lake Erie

The bill prohibits the Director of Natural Resources or any other state authority from issuing any permit or making any lease to take or remove oil or natural gas from and under the bed of Lake Erie.¹ Thus, the bill effectively excludes the extraction of oil and gas from under Lake Erie from the law requiring state agencies to lease their lands for oil and gas development.² Under current law, the Director of Natural Resources may issue permits and make leases to take sand, gravel, stone, and other minerals or substances from and under the bed of Lake Erie, provided approval is given by:

1. The Governor;
2. The Attorney General; and
3. The Director of Environmental Protection.

The Director may issue the leases on either a rent or royalty basis, as the Director determines to be best for Ohio.³

¹ R.C. 1505.07(B).

² R.C. 155.33, not in the bill.

³ R.C. 1505.07(A).

Oil or gas drilling under state parks

Similarly, the bill prohibits the Director of Natural Resources or any other state authority from issuing any permit, making any lease, or otherwise granting authorization to take or remove oil or natural gas from and under any Ohio state park established under the State Parks Law.⁴ Again, the bill effectively excludes the extraction of oil and gas from under Ohio state parks from the law requiring state agencies to lease their lands for oil and gas development.⁵ Under current law, the Ohio Oil and Gas Land Management Commission may accept nominations for leases to take or remove oil or natural gas under state lands, including Ohio state parks.⁶

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	07-24-25

ANHB0399IN-136/ts

⁴ R.C.1509.023.

⁵ R.C. 155.33, not in the bill.

⁶ R.C. 155.30 to 155.37, not in the bill.